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Letter dated 29 April 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon the instructions of my Government, I am transmitting herewith a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic, dated 26 April 2016 (see annex).

I kindly request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Zohrab **Mnatsakanyan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 29 April 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic

Stepanakert, 26 April 2016

Following the large-scale aggression on 2 to 5 April this year against the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic, Azerbaijani authorities continue their efforts to finally derail the peace process and transfer it to a military dimension. Azerbaijani attempts at the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to unilaterally denounce the trilateral ceasefire agreement of 12 May 1994 come to prove this. At the same time, Azerbaijan resorts to its traditional practice of fraud and manipulation, trying to put the blame on the Armenian sides and thereby avoid responsibility for unleashing the war.

In this regard, we consider it necessary to remind that the ceasefire agreement concluded between the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic, Azerbaijan and Armenia for an indefinite term is the only real achievement in the Azerbaijani-Karabakh conflict settlement process. It is thanks to this agreement that foundations for peace talks were laid and conditions were created for the activities of the mediators to find a just and final solution to the conflict.

We share the view of the OSCE Minsk Group co-chairs that this agreement, as well as the agreement of February 1995, is the basis for the ceasefire and its strengthening. We also consider as extremely important the consolidation of positions of the international community and the mediator countries in taking effective and urgent measures to force Azerbaijan to comply with the commitments taken under those agreements.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic strongly condemns any attempts by the Azerbaijani authorities to reconsider those agreements, assessing them as an explicit intention of Azerbaijan to unleash another war, and considers it necessary to fully restore the ceasefire established in May 1994.

To guarantee the security of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic and its people, as well as to promote peace and stability in the region, Nagorno-Karabakh Republic authorities will take diplomatic and other possible measures to ensure the full implementation of the agreements of 12 May 1994 and 6 February 1995 and to exclude the possibility of developments along the criminal scenario planned by the Azerbaijani authorities.